

THE SILENT HOOSIER

Indiana's newsletter of deaf people and their communities

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NUMBER 1

Bill King Honored at Indianapolis Black Deaf Advocates' 10th Anniversary Banquet



A group picture of the IBDa banquet crowd. The new IBDa officers are seated in the front row: From left to right is Valeria Vaughn-chapter representative, Debricka McClung-treasurer, Donald Tinsley-president, Tim Albert the guest speaker, Aileen Vasquez – secretary and Padra Jones – vice president. Bill King is standing at the left end of the third row of this picture. (Photo credit: Uncommon Grafx photography).

The Indianapolis Black Deaf Advocates (IBDA) celebrated its 10th anniversary banquet on Saturday, February 8, 2003 at the Celebrations banquet hall. Tim Albert, director of the YES program of the National Black Deaf Advocates, was the guest speaker but Bill King (ISD 1943) was the surprise honored member for the night!

At the 10th anniversary banquet, Donald Tinsley had a special slide show which showed many pictures of IBDa banquets, workshops and committees in the past 10 years. Many people were surprised to see Bill King show up so many times in the slide show! There were pictures of the 1998 NBDA convention in Indianapolis. Everyone enjoyed going through the past 10 years of black deaf achievements in this slide show.

Tim Albert was the guest speaker of this banquet. He graduated from Louisiana School for the Deaf in 1991 and graduated from NTID with a degree in computer operations and another degree in photography at 1997. He went to get his B.S. degree in social work at Gallaudet University on 2002. He is working on his master's degree in Social Work at Gallaudet.

Tim Albert is the national director of the YES (Youth Empowerment Summit) program of NBDA. The YES program is a summer program for black deaf and hard of hearing youths. The first YES program was held in Washington D.C. with 31 youths in 1997 with our own Debricka McClung! The 2003 YES program will be held from August 17 through 24, 2003 in Denver, Colorado

Tim also works as the deaf and hard of hearing liaison person with the Washington D.C. Metropolitan Police Department. Tim teaches sign language and some basic information about deaf culture to all policemen. The police department set up the Silent Partner pager system to

alert deaf people of storm warnings and terrorist attacks through personal pagers. The D.C. police department set up the liaison person, after it was sued by a deaf man who was left in jail for three to four months without going to trial. This deaf man turned out to be the wrong man!

Tim Albert announced that Laurene Gallimore was sorry that she could not come to Indianapolis for the 10th anniversary banquet, and she wished everyone in IBDa great luck in their work in Indiana.

Jerry Cooper gave a brief description of the Indiana Deaf Heritage program. It was announced that a surprising discovery was made about Bill King. After he graduated from ISD in 1943, Bill King could not go to Gallaudet University, because it did not admit black students. Bill went to West Virginia State College and he got his bachelor's degree in mechanical arts in 1947, and then his master's degree in deaf education in 1949. Bill worked many years as a teacher at the Virginia School for the Deaf – both at the separate colored school for black deaf students in Hampton, Virginia, and then at the main campus in Staunton, Virginia after the Virginia deaf school was integrated in the 1970's.

The surprise was that Bill King was the first deaf person at ISD – either white or black to earn a college degree from a hearing university! Because of his master's degree in 1949, it looks like that Bill King may be the first black deaf person in the USA to earn a master's degree! Gallaudet University did not admit black students till 1956, so that no black deaf people were able to get master's degrees from Gallaudet before 1956. No one expected that this quiet man in Indianapolis made major achievements for black deaf people!

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When does my subscription expire?

The date above your name on the mailing label shows the year and month when your Silent Hoosier subscription will expire. As an example, 2003-12 means that December 2003 is when your subscription will expire. 2004-02 means February 2004 is your expiration date.

The Readers Write Back:

Diane Hazel-Jones wrote the SILENT HOOSIER that she enjoyed reading all the articles in the last issue. She thought that the stories Linda Cundy shared about her interpreting experiences were very "real". She hoped that Linda's story would help everyone to be more sensitive to the needs of the interpreter and the deaf people. In Diane's experiences, she knows that she always does a better job when she has time to prepare well. She hopes that more people in Indiana will use more deaf interpreters for events in the near future. Diane Hazel-Jones works with ISD parents in the ISD Outreach Office, and she has been a CODA interpreter in Indiana for many and many years.

Gallaudet Student Wins Community Service Award:

In Washington, D.C., the Office of the Mayor announced that Gallaudet student **Davina Brimmer** had received the March 2003 Mayor's Community Service Award. Every month the Mayor's Office gives the Community Service Award to one adult and to one young person under the age of 24, who have volunteered in different ways to help Washington D.C. a better place to live.



Davina Brimmer graduated from ISD in 1999, and she is a junior at Gallaudet, majoring in elementary education. In February 2003, she helped organized a 30-Hour Famine project to raise thousands of dollars for the non-profit organization World Vision. Some Gallaudet students and Davina raised money for this organization, and stopped eating food for 30 hours. To graduate from Gallaudet, each student are required to provide 60 hours of community service in four years, but Davina already met her 60 hour requirement in her junior year! That is why the Mayor's Office chose Davina to win the Community Award for March 2003.

Obituaries:

Albert E. "Corky" Slater died on Wednesday, February 5, 2003 at the age of 78 in Indianapolis. He had graduated from ISD in 1943, where he was a star athlete. He retired from Eli Lilly in 1984 after 34 years of service. He was a member of the Indianapolis Senior Silent Hoosiers and the Greater Indianapolis Deaf Club. He was married 54 years to Iva Slater with five children: Sue Burcham, Pearl Unger, Terry Slater, Mary Slater and Jeff Slater. He had 11 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren. He was the brother of Ethel Fisch, Gertrude Keiser and Donald Slater. Memorial contributions were made to the Indianapolis Silent Senior Hoosiers at his funeral at the Planner & Buchanan Funeral Center in Speedway. *(submitted by Bob Carty's Indianapolis Deaf News service).*

Rosemary "Baughman" Kotona passed away on February 23, 2003 at the age of 74 in Hobart. She graduated from ISD in 1947 and was the beloved sister of Joan "Baughman" Avery. She was a member of the Northwest Indiana Deaf Club, where her late husband, Jack Katona, was an active leader. Five children survived her: Joseph Agan, Katherine Parson, Timothy Agan, Dean Katona and Joan Katona. Six grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, one sister, one nephew and one niece also survived Rosemary Katona. Cremation services were handled by the Burns Funeral Home in Hobart. *(submitted by Letha Hoogewerf).*

Hoosier Fishermen Meet Together:

The Indiana Bass-Anglers of the Deaf (IBAD) had its annual meeting at the Abe Martin Lodge in Brown County State Park on Saturday, March 1. 67 people showed up and Winfred and Judith Larkin were the chairpersons. Many good prizes were given away, and a funny skit about fishing was performed by Winfred Larkin, Wayne Mich and Joe Murray.

New officers were elected: Winfred Larkin-president, David Goodwin-vice president, Susan Billard-secretary, Rodney Ashmore-treasurer, Jack Stigers-trustee, Anna Miller-trustee, Alva Daugherty-trustee, Mark Miller-lake chairman and Wesley Parsons-IBAD representative.

President Rodney Ashmore presented the Cox's Award (best work for one year's activities) to Jack Stigers, the Sportsmanship Award to Connis Collins, and the Achievement Award (best work for three year's activities) to Connis Collins. Alan Rork gave the Valor Award to David Goodwin, because David Goodwin saved Alan's life from drowning at Salamonie Lake last July.

The 2003 dates for IBAD events are:

- March 29 at Summit Lake (7 am-3 pm)
- April 26 at Hardy lake (6 am-2 pm)
- May 17 at Raccoon Lake (5 am-1 pm)
- June 9-12 at National Bass Anglers for the Deaf convention at Truman Lake in Missouri
- June 28 at Salamonie Lake (5 am-1 pm)
- July 19 at West Boggs Lake (split hours: 5 am – 9 am and 4 pm – 9 pm).
- August 9 IBAD Team Championship contest for \$500 at Patoka Lake
- August 23 at Patoka Lake (5 am-1pm)
- September 20 at Monroe Lake (6 am-2 pm)
- October 11 IBAD Classic at Patoka Lake

25th Anniversary Celebration Deaf Services Inc.

Saturday, August 16, 2003
at the Patio Restaurant
7706 Broadway Merrillville IN
\$25.00 per person
Banquet / Cash Raffle / Silent Auction

Jerry Thixton's Health Journal:

Editor's Note: Jerry Thixton sent out his health treatment journal last January. It was an excellent story about his disease: multiple myeloma, with his symptoms, his treatments and his medicine. Jerry's story also shows the different time phases he went through.

Many interpreters have told Michael Reis that their greatest problem in medical interpreting was that the deaf patient knows so little about diseases. Many times when the deaf patient hears the bad news that he/she has a disease, the deaf patient has to learn a lot of information about his / her disease in a short time RIGHT NOW. At the same time, the deaf person struggles with bad feelings about having his / her disease for the first time. Many interpreters have noticed that many hearing people know more about many different diseases through listening to radio programs, watching special TV movies of the week and reading various newspapers & magazines. When hearing people find out that they have a disease, they adjust much faster and easier to a life with his/her disease. At the same time, many deaf people do not know anything about many diseases, and many deaf patients suffer a lot more than hearing patients.

Maybe the SILENT HOOSIER will have a special story about one disease every year or every two years. The special story will come from one deaf person, and it will share many things about the disease – exactly the same way how Jerry's story shares information about multiple myeloma. It is hoped that in many years, the special stories about different diseases will help deaf people learn more about diseases, and that the special stories will help deaf patients adjust faster and easier.)

January 31, 2001: I began to feel lousy, dizzy and sick. I almost lost my balance when I walked. I was losing my handgrip as I dropped several glasses and dishes. I thought it was because of my lifelong problem with vertigo. For the next month, I did not improve at all so I visited my family doctor. He sent me to several specialists: an audiologist, a neurologist, a cardiologist, a pulmonary specialist, an Ear Nose Throat specialist and I had many different tests: a stress test, an EKG scan and a brain scan. All tests were negative.

March 27, 2001: One evening I had a bad nose bleed that would not stop at all. I had to go to the hospital for the next 24 hours and I went home when my nose stopped bleeding.

July 26, 2001: I told my puzzled family doctor that I breathed too hard when I mowed the lawn or mopped the floor. He asked me if I had vomited in the past three weeks. When I said yes, my doctor decided to give me a complete blood count work – even though I was in good health! The blood tests showed that I had a rare blood / bone marrow cancer that is called multiple myeloma.

Multiple Myeloma is an abnormal growth of plasma cells. My oncologist (doctor that specializes in cancers) scraped my breastbone with a scalpel for the IGA, IGG or IGM levels in my blood. It showed that my incurable cancer was in the advanced level when my IGA count was 7830 (the normal IGA count for everybody is 400!) I had low hemoglobin (red cells carrying oxygen) of 8 that showed why I was dizzy and almost lost my balance all the time (the minimum level of hemoglobin for everybody is 14).

There are four different types of blood diseases (red cells – non cancerous sickle cells, white cells – leukemia, platelets – lymphoma and plasma – myeloma. Mrs. Geraldine Ferraro, a former Vice President candidate in 1984, and the famous newspaper columnist Ann Landers has multiple myeloma.

August 1, 2001: I began to take ten pills of 2 mg Melphalan (chemotherapy) and three pills of 50 mg Prednisone (steroids) for the first 4 days of every month. I always got sick on the fifth and sixth day! I had to drink 8 to 10 glasses of water anyway, even though the water made me get sick! My IGA level was decreasing.

April 8, 2002: My oncologist felt that the oral chemotherapy pills were not helping me. My IGA, IGG and IGM levels were not decreasing anymore. He sent me to the Bone Marrow Transplant (BMT) team at the Indiana University Medical Center. Every three weeks I got Cytoxin (another chemotherapy pill) with steroids – which made me get sick and weak with a lot of vomiting. My IGA level dropped more. At the same time I had another illness – amyloidosis which made my kidneys leak some proteins into my feet and ankles, which caused them to swell. Amyloidosis happens a lot with multiple myeloma.

May 26, 2002: Before I got two ports (holes) on the right side of my chest, I learned how to clean a bandage and how to flush these two ports with syringes

(shots). The ports were helpful because I did not need to prick my arm veins every time for IV transfusions.

My first step of the BMT procedure was to get a high dose of Cytoxin through one of my ports in my chest. I was knocked out on the first day. When I woke up on the next day, my feet and ankles were swollen a lot, and my leg calves started to swell, too! My oncologist gave me the medicine Aldactone for the swelling. But there was some good news: my IGA level measured 739 – only 339 above the normal level of 400!

June 5, 2002: After I got out of the hospital, my oncologist wanted visiting home nurses for me. One time my nurse got concerned when my blood pressure got too low and I got too dehydrated (thirsty). The oncologist ordered the night nurse to set up an IV transfusion for three hours every night – to make me less dehydrated. My white blood cell count was too low – 0.2. I had to take Neupogen shots myself every morning and night for my white blood cell count – I needed white blood cells for my immune system. I felt better on the next week – in time for my stem cell collection.

June 12, 2002: The second step of the BMT procedure is the stem cell collection. For three days in a row, I went to the IU Hospital as an outpatient. In the first two days, I did not have enough stem cells – but it made me very tired and weak. I asked that my BMT operation be postponed for one week.

June 25, 2002: At the IU Hospital, I was confined in the isolated and HEPA controlled room where I went through a high dose of Melphalan chemotherapy that killed most of my blood cells. On the next day, I received a stem cell transplant that withdrew my stem cells from my body. The hospital lab cleaned out bad cancerous cells in my stem cells and froze them in liquid nitrogen. Then my cleansed stem cells were put back into my blood. I became very sick and I vomited a lot. The doctors were worried about my irregular heartbeats, which was caused by the powerful chemotherapy. They did EKGs to watch for any heart damage. My blood counts and my immune system were dangerously low, as it was supposed to happen. After ten days, my blood counts and my immune system began to go back up.

During the ten days at the hospital, I was fed with white food substances, steroids, antibacterial medicine, antiviral medicine and morphine. I gained so much weight to 205 pounds! One night I had a bad fall in my room, but I remembered nothing. I had a bad head cut with at least fifteen stitches and a swollen head and bruises.

I was glad that my friends came to visit me, but they had to wash their hands and arms with hospital soap, put on latex gloves and to wear a face mask all the time! They had to sign a paper that said that they had no illness or contagious diseases. I really am so thankful that my friends went through much trouble to visit me!

July 11, 2002: It felt so great to be home after the 16 days of hell in the hospital. It felt good to have the ports removed from my chest. More blood checkups and tests showed that the BMT was successful and its results lasted longer and longer. My blood levels are in the normal range. The BMT does not cure multiple myeloma, but it gives me some more time to live. How much time I have to live is unknown. My short range plans is to live day by day. When my wife gets better, we would like to go to Montana, her old home state. We want to visit many state parks in Indiana, too!

December 18, 2002: At my oncologist, I take a transfusion of Zometa to strengthen my bones and to rebuild bone lesion spots. My IGA level read 70, and my lungs sounded clear. That was great news!

My oncologist warned me to avoid large crowds in supermarkets and department stores. My good appetite is coming back. I am still on medical leave from ISD. I am still taking antiviral pills for a full year, and it will take me a long time to regain some strength and my old self. I am grateful to my wonderful oncologist and the IU Hospital staff with their great sign language interpreters. I look forward to enjoy and celebrate Christmas with my family. I thank my friends, acquaintances and relatives for their thoughts, prayers and get-well cards.

(end of Jerry Thixton's story)

Big ASLTA Conference in Indianapolis:

On April 10-13, 2002 there will be a big conference of ASL teachers at the Downtown Marriott Hotel at Indianapolis. About 300 people are expected to attend the second professional development conference of the American Sign Language Teachers Association (ASLTA). The conference is coordinated through our own Matthew Moore, who used to publish the DEAF LIFE magazine in the past. The conference is sponsored by many organizations such as NTID, the Gallaudet Regional Campus in Kansas, SPRINT, Vincennes University, the WorldComm Internet Relay service and other groups.

Several former Hoosiers will be presenting various workshops about teaching ASL classes in different places – such as Laurene Gallimore and Eddy Laird. Some workshops will discuss about ASL rules/grammar, while other workshops discuss lesson plans for ASL classes

On Friday night, there will be a Silent Auction with artwork by deaf artists. People will have to pay \$30 to enter the Silent Auction room, and then all bids must start at \$125.00 and up.

Registration fees are \$375 now. The conference does not include a Friday night banquet – and the Silent Auction Gala on Friday night will offer snacks and cookies only. People are expected to eat dinner on their own.

Senior Citizens 30th Anniversary Banquet at Indianapolis:

The Indianapolis Silent Senior Citizens will celebrate its 30th anniversary with a nice banquet on Saturday, May 10th at 12:00 noon at the Jonathan Byrd's Cafeteria in Greenwood, Indiana. It will cost \$25.00 per person and the deadline is April 3. Please mail your check (made payable to Senior Silent Hoosiers) to James Banger. His address is 8834 West 1050 South, Fortville IN 46040.

It was Charley Whisman who first established the Indianapolis Silent Senior Citizens at the senior citizen center on East Michigan Street in 1973. This group sponsored many bus trips to different states in the USA and Canada. Now this group sponsors weekly bingo games and lunches every Thursday at the Indianapolis Senior Citizens Center on East Michigan Street.

Indiana Chapter – Gallaudet Alumni:

The Indiana chapter of the Gallaudet University Alumni Association met on Saturday, February 8 at the MCL cafeteria at Castleton Square. 30 people were present, and the officers of this chapter are: president Kay Sellers, vice-president Jackie McBroom, secretary Cynthia Van Manen and treasurer Susan Hocker.

It was announced that \$100 scholarships to Gallaudet were awarded to Anthony Mowl and Brooke Aldrette last year at ISD's graduation class. There will be another chapter meeting on Saturday, March 8 to meet with Gallaudet people who are coming to the Academic Bowl event at ISD.

It was announced that Tess Marshall is ill at home with Marvin Marshall doing fine in the nursing home. Paul Baldridge is doing all right in his home and Harold Larsen will be 94 years old and he is doing fine in the Coventry Village. Kitty Baldridge was shown in the Indiana University Alumni Magazine about her being Gallaudet's woman basketball team's coach and her success in bringing her team to the Sweet 16 tournament several years ago. Kitty said that she grew up in a family of basketball players – including her father and her brothers, but she was the shortest family member! Marsha Weitzel had a long interview with a nice picture on the USA Today about her career being a deaf referee in hearing basketball games. Larry and Milly Baker is looking forward about going to Alaska for six weeks with Paul and Susan Hocker in June 2003 – almost going on the same path where Bob Downing went last year! (Editor's Note: That means another long story on Alaska for the Silent Hoosier newsletter!)

ISD Wins Regional Academic Bowl!

The Midwest Regional Academic Bowl was held at the ISD campus on March 6-9, 2003. Gallaudet University sponsors regional Academic Bowls through the country (Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, Southeast, Midwest and West regions). Each team has four people, who compete against other teams by answering many questions in different subjects.

ISD won the regional Academic Bowl and the ISD team had Pia Marie Paulone, Drew Robarge, Jon Mowl, Ellen O'Hara and Trevor Baldwin with coaches Mrs. Mary Kovatch and Mr. Keith Westhoelter.

The second place winner went to Wisconsin School for the Deaf, the third place winner went to Hinsdale South High School – Darien IL near Chicago and the fourth place winner went to John Hershey High School – Arlington Heights IL near Chicago. The outstanding player awards went to ISD's Pia Marie Paulone and George Kartheiser of Hinsdale South. The Sportsmanship Award went to the Hinsdale South team.

Other deaf schools in the Midwest regional Academic Bowl were Kansas School for the Deaf, Missouri School for the Deaf, St. Rita's School for the Deaf, South Dakota School for the Deaf, Illinois School for the Deaf, Minnesota Academy for the Deaf, Ohio School for the Deaf and Southwest Cooperative – School District #230 in Tinley Park IL near Chicago.

Now ISD's team will go to the national Academic Bowl championship at the Gallaudet University campus on May 3-6, 2003. ISD will face other regional champions such as Florida School for the Deaf who won the Southeast regional (Florida was the national Academic Bowl champ in 2002). At the West regional Academic Bowl, the University High School team from Irvine CA near Los Angeles is the regional champ. The Northeast regional champ is the Monroe #1 BOCES (unknown location) and the Mid-Atlantic championship will be held at the MSSD campus at Washington D.C. on March 20-23.

GOOD LUCK, ISD! We will be rooting for you at Gallaudet!

Where is the Silent News newspaper? Where is Deaf Life Magazine?

Two weeks ago, Bob Canty asked Michael Reis what happened to the Silent News newspaper. The Silent News newspaper is a national newspaper for the deaf, which was published from New Jersey. Other deaf people have complained that they never got the Deaf Life magazine for years and years. Michael is a subscriber to both papers, and he has never received any issues, too! Many deaf people in Indiana have to realize that their money spent on the Silent News and Deaf Life is gone, and it is VERY UNLIKELY that we will ever get our money back.

There is a website for the Silent News newspaper (<http://www.silentnews.com>), but it has very old news, which stopped at May 2002. It had two deaf columnists, which stopped at December 2001. The calendar of events at the Silent News website still advertises about the Deaf Way 2 conference and the 2002 NAD conference at Washington D.C. There was an announcement that the USA Deaf Sports Federation (USADSF) had merged with the Silent News newspaper, but there was no date on this announcement. It looks like the Silent News website has not been updated for one year.

Deaf Life has its website: www.deaflife.com. It shows the cover issue from April 2002 but it has an announcement that Deaf Life will start publishing with the July 2003 issue – after four years of inactivity. Matthew Moore had eye surgery so that's why no Deaf Life issues were published for a long time. Many deaf people in Indiana still remember that several times since 1994 Matthew Moore promised that he would move back to Indianapolis from his home in Rochester NY. We will wait and see what happens to him and his magazine.

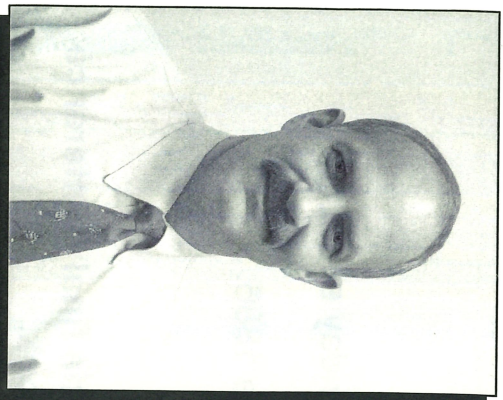


Indiana Association of the Deaf 2003 Conference

DEAF EMPOWERMENT Past, Present and Future™

April 25-26, 2003

Co-hosted by Northwest IN Deaf Club and Camelot Deaf Club



Special Guest Speaker

Dwight Benedict

Director of Housing Services—Gallaudet

Asst Chairperson Deaf Way II

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IAD 43rd Biennial Conference

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Registration (Required) \$ _____
President's Reception/Awards \$ _____
Banquet/ Entertainment \$ _____
Total \$ _____



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Workshops:

"The ADA: Still Alive? Protect Your Rights!" workshop (Friday afternoon)
by deaf Chicago attorney Howard Rosenblum

"Deaf Leadership Issues in Indiana" workshop (Saturday afternoon)
by Sharon Wooten

Workshops for Young Deaf Families by the ISD Outreach Office: (9 am Friday)

"Child Abuse Rules" "Parent Infant Services"

"How to Prepare Your Child for the First Grade"

"CODA Workshop"

Workshops by the Indiana RID chapter: (all day Saturday)

"From the Other Side: What Coordinators Wish Interpreters Knew"

"Panel Discussion: A Deaf Consumer, An Interpreter & A Coordinator"

"Our History: IAD and ICRID"

Conference Events:

Thursday night party to meet and greet Dwight Benedict!

"The Indiana Deaf Community in the 19th Century" play
presented by the Indiana Deaf Heritage of DHHS (Friday evening)

A short history of the Indiana Association of the Deaf since 1886.

Saturday night banquet with a silent auction.

NOTE: There may be some last-minute changes but the final Conference Schedule will be printed in the conference program book.

Price List: IAD Members Non-Members

Registration	\$15.00	\$20.00
President's Reception	\$10.00	\$15.00
Banquet & Entertainment	<u>\$35.00</u>	<u>\$35.00</u>
TOTAL:	\$60.00	\$70.00
Senior Citizens (60+ years)	\$50.00	\$60.00
Banquet only	\$35.00	\$35.00

Please note that conference registration fee must be paid with banquet ticket.





30 Movies in Three Nights!

Yes, that was how many movies the Chicago Festival of the Cinema for the Deaf showed in the Esquire Theatre on February 27 – March 1. The film festival showed thirty short and long movies with deaf characters, or movies which were made by deaf people or movies about deaf people from these countries around the world: Japan, USA, Ireland, England, Brazil, Australia, France, Ghana, Israel, Nepal and Turkey. Here are the summaries of the best movies of the film festival:

“I Love You” – a Japanese movie about a deaf woman and her hearing husband and her hearing daughter (about 10 years old). The movie was about the problems of the hearing daughter (a CODA) at school. She had to put up with mean remarks by her hearing classmates about her deaf mother. Her deaf mother did not want to be a burden to her daughter all the time, but at the same time, the little girl was getting tired of talking for her mother. Her mother joined a small deaf theatre group, which was dying and had only two members left. They rehearse for a play “Beauty and the Beast” and the deaf theatre group gets a hearing pantomime actor, who wants to join the deaf people, even though the mime actor knew no sign language. At first the deaf actors fight to keep the hearing mime actor out, and the theatre group falls apart again. At the end, the deaf theatre group gets back together and performs in front of a huge audience.

This movie was so interesting because it showed how similar life was in Japan as in the USA. There were beautiful parks and playgrounds, deaf people in factories wrote notes on paper and pencil, hearing people had prejudice against deaf people, how stubborn some older deaf people were to accept hearing people who wanted to get involved with them, prejudice against other deaf people by hearing parents of deaf children. This movie also showed subtitles in two languages at the same time: English subtitles on the bottom of the movie screen and Japanese language subtitles on the left sides of the screen!

“Fed Up” – an American movie made at the Texas School for the Deaf. The movie was about stories of four abuse victims at the Deaf Abused Women Crisis Services (DAWCS) at Austin, Texas. The first victim was a young girl who had abusive and insulting hearing parents and a mean hearing boyfriend and at the same time! She learned to drop her boyfriend and focus upon helping her parents improve their attitudes. The second victim was a lesbian who had a deaf girlfriend who tried to take advantage of her all the time! The third victim was a white girl who dated a black deaf boy with a criminal background. She was forced to drop him, before she got herself arrested for his crimes! The fourth victim was a

surprise: a boy! He was the quarterback of the TSD football team, yet he was an abused victim! How? He was attracted to a beautiful cheerleader who turned out to be a nagging girl who pestered him through the pager! She was so domineering and she demanded his attention all the time. When she tried to blackmail him by claiming to be pregnant (falsely), he had to drop her for good.

“Protect Yourself” – a short movie about AIDS awareness from Ghana. Deaf drummers played the drums with their hands, while deaf singers signed rap songs in Ghana sign language (which was so similar to ASL that it was easy to follow!). The singers signed rap songs about AIDS awareness and stamped their feet along with the deaf drummers banging their drums. The movie also showed how to put on a condom on a large plastic penis, and how to put a female condom inside a large plastic vagina. This short movie was certainly NOT for children!

“Hear No Evil” – a British movie about a hearing electrician who thinks that a deaf woman tries to kill herself, and how he tries to save her life, but it ends up in a big misunderstanding and a romance! This movie had unique captions: each character in the movie had captions of a different color, so the audience would know who was speaking or signing. At the same time, a very long caption at the bottom of the screen described background noises such as the words of the song sung in a crowded bar, kinds of noises outdoors, etc. The movie showed three or four captions at the same time, but it was so easy to follow all of them at once!

“God, Kill Her One Hour Before I Die” – an Israeli movie about illiterate deaf daughters of elderly hearing Arab people. The movie showed several Arab families, who had deaf middle-aged daughters. The deaf women never went to school, because the hearing parents did not think that deaf girls deserved any education, and they wanted the girls to stay home and clean the house. When the deaf girls grew up to be women, they could not get married because no Arab hearing men wanted to marry a deaf woman. Even though the women were in their late 30’s and 40’s they still lived with their elderly parents. Every night the elderly Arab parents prayed to God that He would kill their deaf daughters one hour before they died.

This movie was terribly depressing, but it showed what many deaf women are like in the Third World – poor, illiterate and living with their elderly parents.

“Inbal’s Father” – a fascinating Israeli movie about one college professor who had cerebral palsy with his normal daughter. This movie had no deaf characters, but it was a beautiful movie about disabled people. The professor wrote a popular children’s book called “Inbal’s Father” and it was about living in a family with a father who had cerebral palsy. When the daughter was growing up, she sometimes wished for a normal father who could drive a car and take her dancing in parties (which are impossible for people with cerebral palsy). The children’s book was written when the daughter was already a grown up woman. In the book, the adult daughter said that she no longer wanted a normal father but she really wanted her own father – even though with cerebral palsy!

The children’s book made powerful statements about disabled people. The book said that deaf people hear much more than those people with normal hearing who don’t care about life. The deaf try so hard to listen, and they end up being better listeners! The blind people see much better than those people with good eyes who don’t care! The blind feels their way around, smells the smells of nature and hears all the sounds of the city around them. The crippled get much further in life than people who can run well but don’t get anywhere in life! The crippled have greater imaginations and they read more books and they make more trips – so the crippled does get around a lot more than the average person with good legs!

The film festival had 30 movies, but there is not enough space here to give brief summaries of all of them! These movies are independent movies, which are never shown in regular movie theatres and which are never available in rented videotapes from Blockbuster. The Chicago film festival plans to sell videotapes of selected movies of the 2003 festival. It now sells videotapes of selected movies from the 2002 festival last year.

(end of movie festival article)

Indy, here we come! I-69 through Southwest Indiana

On January 9, Governor O'Bannon came down to Evansville and announced that the Indiana Department of Transportation (IDOT) had selected a "new terrain" route for I-69 through southwestern Indiana. The governor decided not to fly in the state-owned jet from Indianapolis, but decided to drive his state-owned car all by himself through Bloomington and Washington to Evansville. He had to drive on two-lane roads and got stuck behind slow-moving trucks. That convinced Governor O'Bannon that this was the best route for I-69.

IDOT had to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) document on the I-69 project. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requires all federal agencies and state agencies to prepare EIS documents to show different impacts upon the environment – before they start any major construction project. For any highway project, the EIS document must consider different routes to build a highway, and it must consider the "do-nothing" alternative, which will show what will happen if the highway was not built at all.

The first thing the EIS document must do is to establish a purpose and goal for the project. "To build a new highway" is not accepted as a goal, and the project must be able to benefit the public, the cities & counties and the state. The EIS document have to measure these types of impacts from the project: 1) land use and buildings, 2) social and economic changes upon the people, 3) secondary changes in the near future, 4) air quality changes, 5) noise levels, 6) highway construction changes on the land, 7) historic buildings in the area, 8) archeological, prehistoric and Indian historic sites, 9) visual impacts of the highway, 10) hazardous waste disposal sites nearby, 11) endangered and threatened species – rare animals, birds and insects, 12) nearby floodplains, 13) nearby wetlands and swamps, 14) impact of the highway upon farms and agricultural lands, 15) impact of the highway upon water quality of nearby lakes and rivers, 16) energy use of highway construction vehicles and gasoline use of all vehicles on the new highway after it is finished, and 17) any rare and unusual resources near the highway.

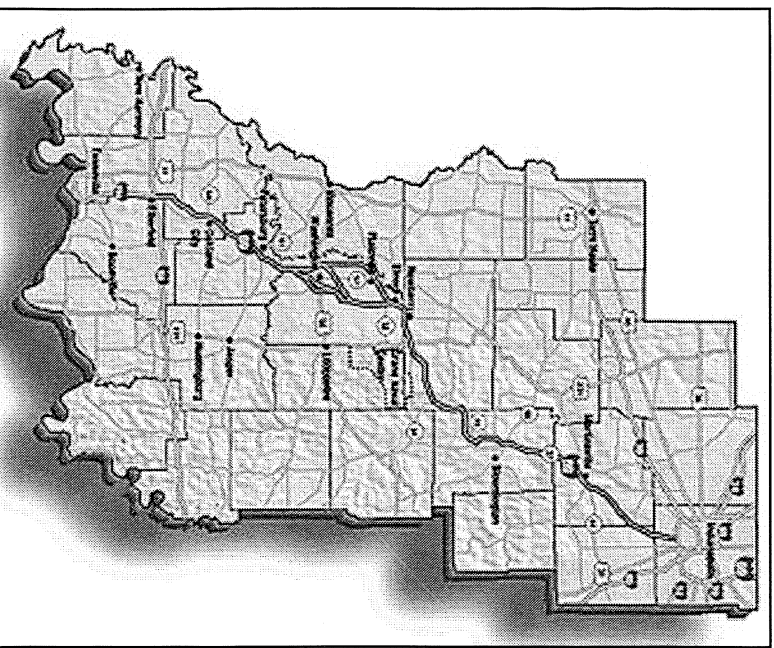
For the I-69 project, IDOT established two goals in the EIS document: 1) to improve transportation needs in southwest Indiana with a better connection between Evansville and Indianapolis. That included increased access to medical, education and employment services in Evansville and Indianapolis. Travel efficiency has to be improved in southwest Indiana, and at the same time, traffic safety must be improved to reduce car crashes, deaths and injuries. 2) to improve economic conditions in southwest Indiana and to use better transportation and improved access to Indianapolis for economic growth in southwest Indiana.

The Crane Naval Surface Warfare Center is a large military base, west of Bedford. It is one of Indiana's largest high-tech employers with 3,700 people working there (including 1,900 scientists and engineers). The Crane base covers 63,000 acres in Martin County. There is a big question about the future of the Crane base: what if the U.S. Navy closes the Crane base? How can the Crane base be converted to other high-tech factories if there are no major highways nearby?

At the beginning, IDOT considered 19 different routes for I-69 and the "do-nothing" alternative. In 2001, IDOT announced five final routes for I-69:

- 1) the US 41 / I-70 route through Terre Haute;
- 2) the US 41 / Indiana SR 67 through Vincennes;
- 3) the Indiana SR 57 to Washington / Indiana SR 58 to Bloomington / Indiana SR 37 to Indianapolis;
- 4) the Indiana SR 57 to Washington / US 231 to Cloverdale or Mooresville / I-70 to Indianapolis; and
- 5) the Indiana SR 57 to Washington / US 50 to Bedford / Indiana SR 37 to Indianapolis.

The "do-nothing" alternative was not accepted for the five final routes, because it would not improve transportation needs and economic needs in southwest Indiana at all!



The EIS document said that the I-69 highway itself would be between 240 to 470 feet wide, the I-69 corridor would be 2000 feet wide and the study area to show impacts of the I-69 highway would be two miles wide (one mile from each side of the highway). The EIS document had to count the acres of farms and forests, houses & businesses, and if any historic sites, rare animals and plants were in the study area.

The EIS document showed these different impacts for the five final highway routes:

1) The US 41 / I-70 route:

This route would be 154-156 miles long between Evansville and Indianapolis. Between 1700 and 2200 acres would be impacted by the upgrading of US 41 and I 70. It would cost between \$800 million and \$1.04 billion dollars.

It would save 11 minutes from the present time to drive from Evansville to Indianapolis. None of the people would have better access to Indianapolis within 1 hour, 18,000 people would have better access to Indianapolis within 2 hours and 58,000 people would have better access to Indianapolis within 3 hours. None of the people would have better access to a major university. About 2000 daily hours in truck traffic would be saved. This route would help improve only one county with high poverty rates (Sullivan County – Sullivan)

About 265-335 houses and 70-131 businesses would be destroyed, with 1270-1780 acres of farmland, 110-170 acres of forests, 370-470 floodplain acres and 25 – 40 acres of wetlands. No historic sites sites would be impacted. Only one federal endangered animal and twelve state endangered species would be impacted.

2) The US 41/ Indiana 67 route:

This route would be 145-147 miles long. Between 5500 and 6200 acres would be impacted, and it would cost 1.47 billion dollars to 1.75 billion dollars.

It would save 17 minutes from the present time from Evansville to Indianapolis. 37,000 people would have better access to Indianapolis within 1 hour, 42,000 people would have better access to Indianapolis within 2 hours, and 85,000 people would have better access to Indianapolis within 3 hours. 243,000 people would have better access to a major university. About 3600 daily hours in truck traffic would be saved. This route would help improve two counties with high poverty rates (Greene County – Bloomfield and Owen County – Spencer).

About 280-408 houses and 56-113 businesses would be destroyed with 4300-5070 acres of farms, 840-935 acres of forests, 1540-1850 acres of floodplains and 90-110 acres of wetlands. No historic sites would be impacted. Only two federal endangered species and 15 state endangered species would be impacted.

3) The IN 57 / IN 58 / IN 37 route:

This route would be 140-143 miles long. Between 5500 and 6090 acres would be impacted,, and it would cost 1.64 billion dollars to 1.81 billion dollars.

It would save 26 minutes from the present time from Evansville to Indianapolis. 60,000 people would have better access to Indianapolis within one hour, 40,000 people would have better access to Indianapolis within two hours, and 166,000 people would have better access to Indianapolis within three hours. 360,000 people would have better access to a major university. About 4300 daily hours in truck traffic would be saved. This route would help improve four counties with high poverty rates (Pike County – Petersburg, Daviess County – Washington, Martin County – Shoals and Greene County – Bloomfield).

About 370-458 houses and 51-75 businesses would be destroyed with 4070-4630 acres of farms, 1140-1275 acres of forests, 820-1080 acres of floodplains and 90-150 acres of wetlands. No historic sites would be impacted. Only two federal endangered species and 14 state endangered species would be impacted.

4) The Indiana 57 / US 231 / I 70 route:

This route would be 143-145 miles long. Between 5420 and 5490 acres would be impacted, and it would cost 960 million dollars to 1.04 billion dollars.

It would save 22 minutes from the present time from Evansville to Indianapolis. No people would have better access to Indianapolis within one hour, 32,000 people would have better access within two hours and 112,000 people would have better access within three hours. No people would have better access to a major university. About 3200 daily hours in truck traffic would be saved. This route would help five counties with high poverty rates (Pike County, Daviess County, Martin county, Greene County and Owen County).

About 143-168 homes and 8-9 businesses would be destroyed, with 4500-4560 acres of farms, 850-920 acres of forests, 1010-1060 acres of floodplains and 110-160 acres of wetlands. No historic sites would be impacted. Only two federal endangered species and nine state endangered species would be impacted.

5) The Indiana 57 / US 50 / Indiana 37 route:

This route would be 146-147 miles long. Between 5570 and 6180 acres would be impacted, and it would cost 1.67 billion dollars to 1.85 billion dollars.

It would save 20 minutes from the present time from Evansville to Indianapolis. 60,000 people would have better access to Indianapolis within one hour, 24,000 people would have better access within two hours and 123,000 people would have better access within three hours. 372,000 people would have better access to a major university. About 4100 daily hours in truck traffic would be saved. Five counties with high poverty rates would be helped: Pike County, Daviess County, Martin County, Orange County – Paoli, and Lawrence County – Bedford.

About 377-508 homes and 72-98 businesses would be destroyed with 3840-4390 acres of farms, 1265-1365 acres of forests, 980-1190 acres of floodplains and 110-130 acres of wetlands. No historic sites would be impacted. Four federal endangered species and 22 state endangered species would be impacted.

The Reason for this Choice:

The US 41 / I 70 route through Terre Haute was the cheapest route, with the fewest number of acres impacted, and the fewest acres of farms, forests and wetlands impacted. But it had very low economic impacts in southwest Indiana – fewest people would have improved access to Indianapolis and to a major university. This route would not help the Crane Naval Base at all.

The Indiana 57 / US 50 / Indiana 37 through Bedford had the greatest economic impacts: five counties with high poverty rates would be helped, it has the highest number of people with access to an university (372,000) and the second highest number of people with access to Indianapolis within three hours (123,000). It would help both the Crane Naval Base and Bedford, too! But it has the most environmental problems of all five final routes. It would have to go through Hoosier National Forest and it would affect 4 federally endangered species and 22 state endangered species! It has the highest number of forest

acres that it would impact. This route is the most expensive route of all final five routes.

That left three routes: the US 41 / Indiana 67 through Vincennes, the Indiana 57 / Indiana 58 / Indiana 37 route through Washington and Bloomington; and the Indiana 57 / US 231 / I-70 through Washington and Cloverdale/Mooresville. Three important reasons why the Indiana 57 / Indiana 58 / Indiana 37 route was chosen as the final route was that 1) although it cost the most (1.64 billion dollars) of these three routes, it had the greatest economic impact way, way above the other two routes (166,000 people with better access to Indianapolis within three hours and 360,000 people with better access to a major university). 2) It had similar environmental problems with the other two routes – a little less farmland acres impacted, more forest acres impacted and less floodplain acres impacted. So environmental costs was almost the same for all three routes. 3) This route was the closest to the Crane Naval Base of all three routes.

That is why the Indiana Department of Transportation had chosen the Indiana 57 / Indiana 58 / Indiana 37 route for the new I-69 highway. The Federal Highway Administration in the US DOT will review the EIS document for I-69 and will make its decision sometime in 2003. If the EIS document is approved by the Federal Highway Administration, the Indiana DOT will start drawing final blueprints for the new I-69 and will start buying up properties.

Many people and cities were disappointed with Governor O'Bannon's announcement. Governor O'Bannon told the people of Terre Haute that they already had I-70 through their town for 30 years while Bloomington, Crane Naval Base and Washington never had an interstate highway at all. The mayor of Vincennes accepted the Governor's decision and told the people of Washington that they were lucky to have I-69 through their community. The mayor of Terre Haute said that the city will not try to stop Indiana DOT and will not file a lawsuit against Indiana DOT and I-69 in the courts. The new I-69 highway will prevent more than 1,500 car accidents that happen every year in the narrow and hilly roads in these southern Indiana counties.

(Editor's Note: This is a long article about I-69 through southwest Indiana. Even after Governor O'Bannon made his announcement, many people are upset about the choice. This was a hard decision to make, because if the Indiana DOT made other choices, other people would get upset. There was no choice that would make everyone happy!

The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) document is used by many government agencies to show why they have decided to build certain highways and buildings. People read the EIS documents to understand much better what is happening out there.

The EIS for the I-69 project is more than 300 pages with many pictures, maps, tables and a lot of numbers. Michael Reis had to pick the most important information, and then squeeze all of the information into two pages for the Silent Hoosier newsletter!).

Come to the 43rd biennial

Indiana Association of the Deaf

conference at the Radisson Hotel
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**See enclosed flyer for workshops, events
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Evansville Deaf Club PICNIC

10 am – 10 pm Sunday, June 22, 2003
Lakeside Shelter Burdette Park.

Admission:

\$3.00 with food, \$5.00 without food

The club will provide BBQ meat, chicken and hot dogs

\$1.00 – drinks for adults

50 cents – drinks for kids under age of 12 years

Raffle Prizes (tickets: 5 tickets for \$5.00)

Door Prizes: \$100, \$75, \$50, \$25 and \$10

Games (at extra cost): Dingo, Bingo and Freeze K